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**MONTANA
DISASTER AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
DIVISION NEWSLETTER
406-444-6911**

**STAN STEPHENS
GOVERNOR**

**GARY C. BLAIR
ADJUTANT GENERAL**

**F. GUY YOUNGBLOOD
ADMINISTRATOR**

The articles in this newsletter do not
constitute official policy.

Volume 17

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Administrator's Message

What is the role of the Disaster and Emergency Services Division within emergency management in Montana? This is certainly an appropriate question to ask as we finalize our annual submission of the Comprehensive Cooperative Agreement, the cornerstone of the federal, state, and local relationship within our profession. From Facility Survey to Disaster Preparedness Improvement and from Community Assistance to Radiological Defense, the role of this office can be summarized as being a two track process.

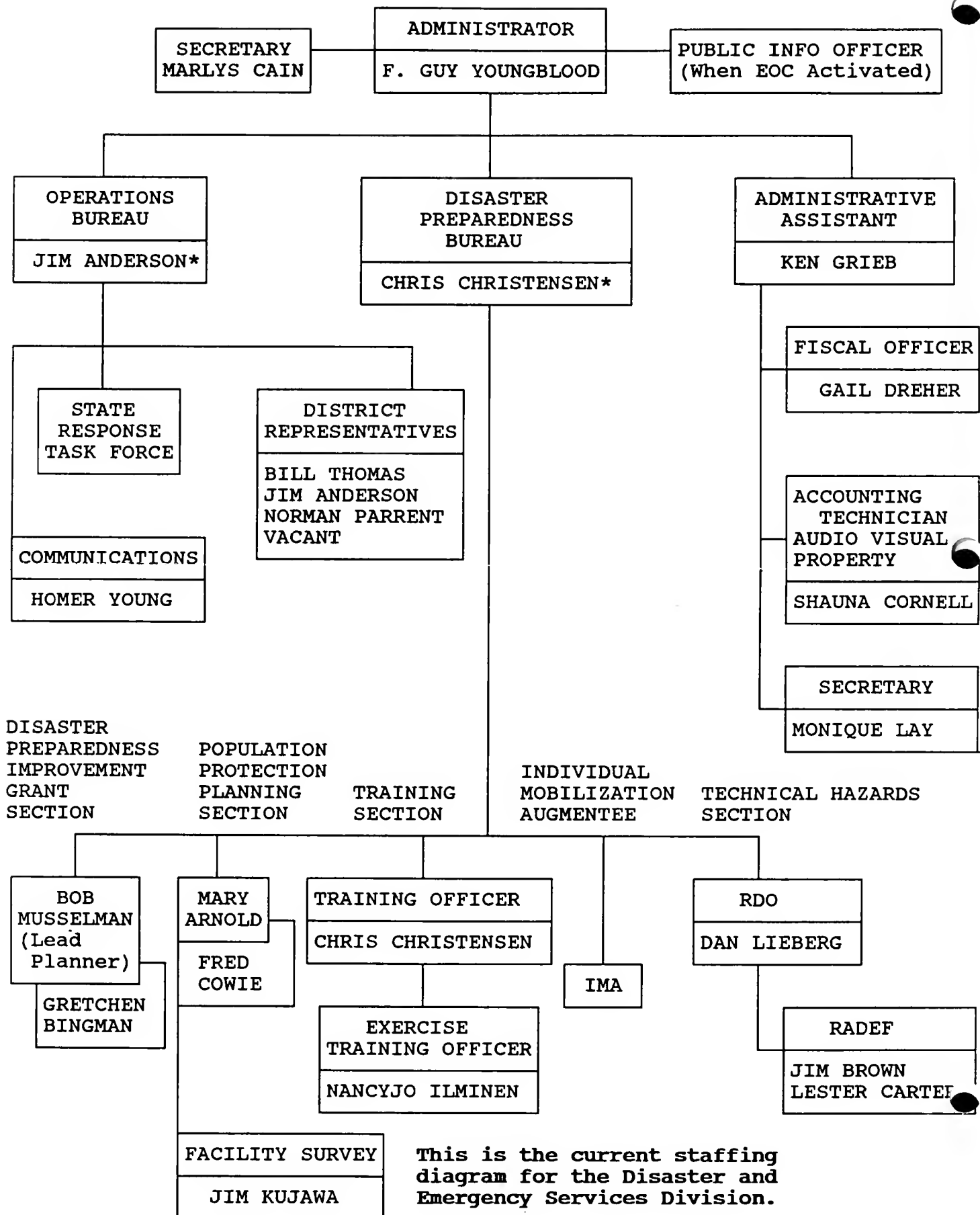
Track one is an obligation to play an active role in encouraging strong municipal and county emergency management programs within every jurisdiction in Montana. This commitment acknowledges the day-to-day on-scene role of local government in protecting the citizenry from the entire spectrum of natural and man-caused hazards. The events of 1989, the Year of Disasters, have confirmed the need to strive for self-sufficiency at this essential level. To assist in this goal, the DES Division provides training, planning, and technical assistance primarily through the District Representatives and Exercise Training Officer. This effort also supports mutual aid and interaction between neighboring jurisdictions.

Track two recognizes the potential for the multi-jurisdictional or catastrophic disaster. These events, which exceed the capabilities of any single jurisdiction, are a FEMA emphasis issue for the upcoming year. As the state emergency management agency, the Division must plan for marshalling the resources of the state, region, and nation in responding to and recovering from these events. Generalized programs such as formulating standardized procedures and encouraging greater involvement of the private sector in disaster response are vital efforts. Specific programs such as the development of a state-wide emergency management information system and the formation of specialized teams (e.g., regional heavy urban search and rescue, disaster medical assistance) also contribute to this goal.

These two tracks are not mutually exclusive, but are complementary efforts that contribute to comprehensive emergency management. Neither track can stand alone and fully protect the people of Montana.

In the months to come new initiatives will be formulated in response to this statement of direction. One initiative that has already come to fruition is the creation of a full-time Operations Bureau. Under Jim Anderson's leadership our citizens can expect an increased emphasis on both field delivery of services and readiness of the State Response Task Force. However, a broad range of input is essential to the continued success of this innovative process. I'm looking forward to hearing from you!

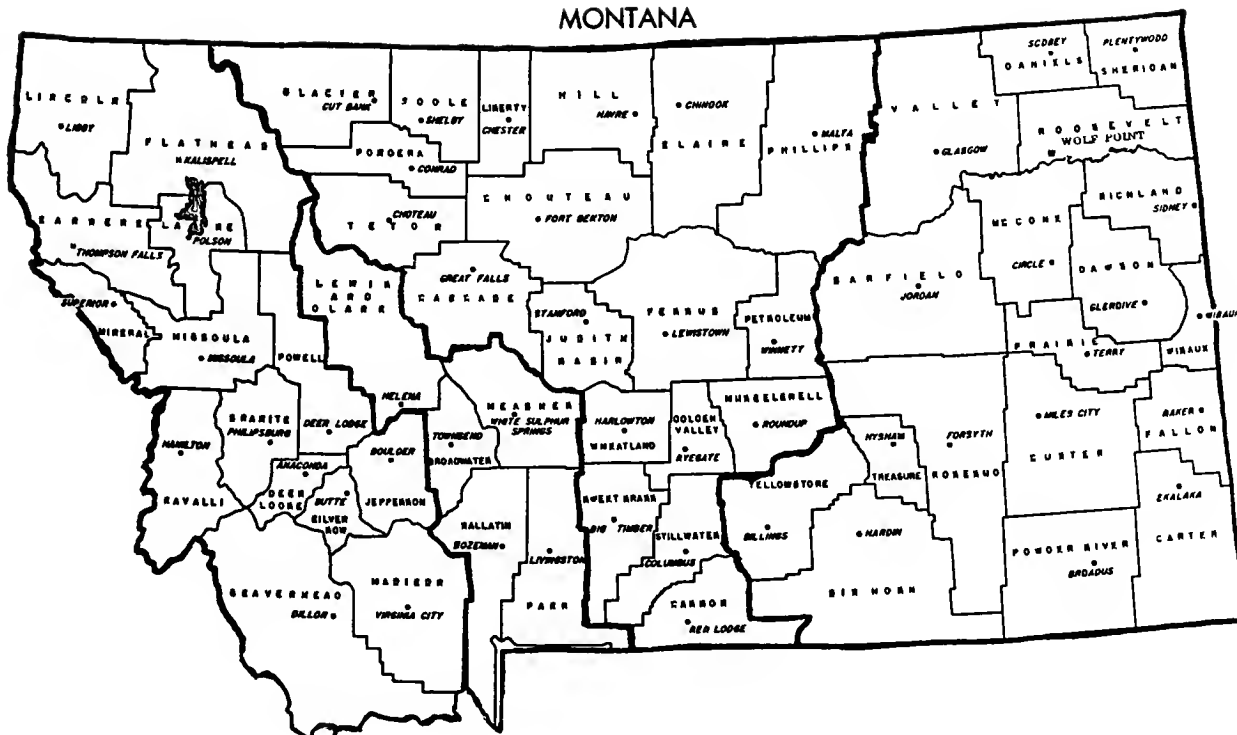
-F. Guy Youngblood



* Additional Duty

DATE: August 1, 1990

MONTANA



MONTANA DISASTER AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

District Boundaries and Offices

District 1 - Missoula
District 3 - Helena

District 2 - Lewistown
District 4 - Miles City

The following chart shows the mileage, one way from key cities and their district offices.

MILEAGE

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Missoula	Libby	190
Missoula	Dillon	170
Missoula	Virginia City	190
Helena	Livingston	121
Helena	Missoula	115
Helena	Lewistown	189
Helena	Miles City	383

MILEAGE

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Miles</u>
Lewistown	Cut Bank	215
Lewistown	Havre	174
Lewistown	Malta	133
Lewistown	Red Lodge	189
Lewistown	Grt. Falls	105
Miles City	Plentywood	212
Miles City	Scobey	218
Miles City	Glasgow	197
Miles City	Billings	146

VOLUNTEERS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WHAT IS YOUR LIABILITY?

*A Guest Editorial by
Capt. Thomas S. Muri*

Montana Code Annotated 10-3-111, titled Personnel immune from liability, provides the following statutory language: (1) Neither the state nor any political subdivision of the state nor the agents or representatives of the state or any political subdivision thereof are liable for personal injury or property damage sustained by any person appointed or acting as a volunteer civilian defense worker or member of any agency engaged in civilian defense activity during a disaster or catastrophe.

What this statutory law means is that you are not going to be held liable for doing your job, provided you do not cause any harm by willful misconduct, gross negligence or bad faith. This has historically been part of your obligation to act with reasonable care.

Because of highly publicized lawsuits there is concern on your part being raised about being sued. While the possibility of being sued is real, the fact remains that the State of Montana has enacted statutory language to assure you that you will not be subject to frivolous lawsuits for participating in civilian disasters. However, you cannot escape all potential aspect of liability.

This means that in your performance you must be reasonably attempting to accomplish the task at hand. Provided that you are exercising reasonable care for the physical safety and property of other people, neither yourself nor the state and any of its political subdivisions will have to face a lawsuit.

However, neither you nor the state and its political subdivision can act

with carte blanche authority to do whatever happens to come to mind.

Another concern is what liability, if any, results from relying upon professional training manual, such as the 1987 Emergency Response Guidebook. Montanans, as previously mentioned, have to rely upon volunteers and underpaid professionals. We all wish that there was ample money available, but the fact remains, we do what we can with the resources at hand. However, when the Monday night Quarterbacks second guess your actions, they will often look towards your reliance upon guidebooks. It is incumbent upon all of you to be as well educated, both through reading and experience, as time and resources allow. Reliance upon information available and your ability to carry out and implement the guidance you receive lessens the potential of lawsuits. Do not be afraid to act, to make decisions, to make a difference. There are tremendous resources available to assist you. Do not be afraid to rely upon such resources.

You must remember that guidebooks, local plans, and various input from the various agencies that you work with can assist you in making decisions, but you cannot rely upon them as a substitute for your own knowledge or judgment. This distinction is important because disasters and emergencies do not fit into nice packets that one guidebook, one plan, or one recommendation can resolve.

The bottom line is Montanans have had and will continue to have tremendous reserves of good will towards people and their state in times of emergencies. Our legislatures have enacted laws to protect and encourage this spirit. City Attorneys, County Attorneys, the Attorney General and his staff, together with

myself are tasked with the responsibility of protecting the good job you do so unselfishly. Please feel free to call upon us for clarification of your concerns.

Captain Thomas S. Muri is the full-time Legal Advisor to the Montana National Guard. His telephone number in Helena is 444-6949.

NATURAL HAZARDS OBSERVER

Many of you receive the "Natural Hazards Observer", and already know how useful the information can be to emergency managers. Those of you who have not seen this publication or those who wish to subscribe, read on!

The "Natural Hazards Observer" is published by the Natural Hazards Research and Applications Information Center. The Center is located on the University of Colorado campus at Boulder, Colorado. It is a non-profit organization funded by the National Science Foundation, Federal Emergency Management Agency, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Geological Survey, Tennessee Valley Authority, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency and the National Institute of Mental Health. With such a broad base of agency support, the Center and the "Observer" cover the entire spectrum of emergency management-related fields.

The most recent copy of the "Natural Hazards Observer" includes articles about mass media and disasters, the International Decade for Natural Hazard Reduction, research done as a result of the Loma Prieta earthquake in California, recovery from a tornado, drought planning, disaster-related grants that are available, emergency management conferences, and a listing of recent publications on disaster issues.

The "Observer" is free within the United States. To subscribe, send your name and address to: The Natural Hazards Research and Applications Information Center, Institute of Behavioral Science #6, Campus Box 482, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, 80309-0482. Please include a note saying you read about the "Observer" in the "Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Division Newsletter".

-Mary Arnold

EARTHQUAKE PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

In a letter to Montana Disaster and Emergency Services Division dated July 19, FEMA Regional Director, Marian Olson stated that Montana has been granted eligibility under 44 Code of Federal Regulations 361, the earthquake program. Additionally, Montana, along with five other states, has been ranked in the Very High seismic risk category by the U. S. Geological Survey. FEMA will use this ranking to determine funding allocations. Pending federal legislation will determine requirements for matching funds.

Any local jurisdictions that are planning earthquake awareness or mitigation activities should make the Division aware of the activities so credit and cost sharing can be considered should funding be made to the state. Please direct any questions to Gretchen Bingman or Bob Musselman.

EARTHQUAKE EDUCATION, WHAT'S SHAKING?

Copies of an earthquake education package are now available for the asking! The package entitled, "Earthquakes: A Teacher's Package for K-6 Grades", FEMA 159, October

1988 is a curriculum guide developed by the National Science Teachers Association.

The package, also known as Tremor Troop, includes materials about the physical effects of earthquakes and safety measures children can take before, during and after an earthquake. The package is divided for three age groups and includes background information for teachers, as well as masters for handouts and transparencies and lists of materials and resources.

One free copy of the materials is available per school while the supply lasts. Requests from teachers, on school letterhead, should be sent to : Marilyn McCabe, Earthquake Education Planning Project, FEMA, 500 C Street, Southwest, Washington, D.C., 20472. Additional copies of the materials are also available for \$15.00 each from the National Science Teachers Association.

However, for a limited time only, you can get a copy of the teaching materials from the Disaster and Emergency Services Division (Helena office) by calling or writing Gretchen Bingman.

TREMOR TROOP--PART TWO

In the December issue of the DES Newsletter, we reported on "Tremor Troop", an earthquake curriculum package for grades K-6.

With the support of the Office of Public Instruction, Montana sent a five member team--Nina Klein, Director of Specialized Educational Projects at Montana Tech, and four elementary school teachers--Connie Wheeler of Manhattan, Lynn Stonelake of Dillon, Roberta Spengler of Helena, and Allen Bone of Butte to a "train-the-trainer" workshop at the Emergency Management Institute in Maryland.

These people will spend 2 1/2 days with other teachers from around the country becoming familiar with the package and being trained to present Tremor Troop to others teachers.

It is our hope that, beginning this fall, we will be able to offer workshops using the team's expertise to instruct Montana elementary school teachers in the classroom use of Tremor Troop. Although funding is uncertain at this time, several possibilities are being considered.

As the workshop program develops, we will publish updates to keep you informed.

DEVELOPING SCHOOL EARTHQUAKE SAFETY PROGRAMS

Two more publications are available about earthquake safety programs. The first is a "Guidebook for Developing a School Earthquake Safety Program", FEMA 88/January 1990. The second is a companion workbook "Earthquake Safety Activities for Children", FEMA 88a/March 1990. Both of these books are on back order from the FEMA publications department. Montana DES does have 300 copies of each document on order.

If you want a copy of either or both of these books, contact Gretchen Bingman. As soon as we get copies, we'll forward them on to those folks who have requested them.

SAFEWAY STORES SUPPORT EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Safeway Stores will print a full page ad in Helena's Independent Record during Lewis & Clark County's Earthquake Preparedness Month in October. The ad will carry safety tips to follow before, during and after an

earthquake, and list the store items on sale that will prepare the public for a disaster.

Anyone interested in asking Safeway to tie in its advertising with disaster preparedness in your community should contact Delmer Denker, Advertising Manager, Safeway Stores, Box 90947, Bellevue, WA 98009-0947, or call him at (206) 455-6444.

MALMSTROM EXERCISES WITH COUNTY

The Air Force returned to Helena to conduct an off-base exercise with Lewis & Clark County, the City of Helena, and the Helena Airport on August 28 and 29.

The exercise kicked off at 10 a.m. when a KC-135 Stratotanker (a military version of the Boeing 707) caught on fire with a Boy Scout troop aboard while touring the aircraft. This set the scene for the two day exercise involving the response agencies from the airport, city, county, and Air Force.

Also involved were St. Peter's Hospital, the Helena Mental Health Center, law enforcement chaplains, the coroner and the county and state EOC's.

The purpose of the exercise was to train personnel in the Incident Command System, coordination with other agencies at the scene, using the EOC as a resource, testing the Emergency Operations Plan and the communications system, and working with the Air Force in the response and recovery operations.

The state Emergency Medical Services bureau provided an Emergency Medical Technician moulage team to lend realism to the exercise and the Grand Street Theater once again supported the drill with actors and actresses to

stress the responders.

A tabletop exercise was held as a prelude to the field exercise on August 14, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Lewis & Clark County EOC.

The previous two articles were provided by Paul Spengler, Lewis & Clark Co., DES Coordinator

COMINGS AND GOINGS

Fallon County Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator, Helmut Straub has resigned. July 15, 1990, was his last full day. Helmut has been with DES for several years and has been actively involved with many elements of preparedness. We wish him well and hope his new employment with the Fallon County Medical Complex provides challenging and satisfying employment.

Powder River county Disaster and Emergency Services Coordinator, Jeanne Portwine resigned effective July 10, 1990. Although Jeanne had held the position for less than a year, Powder River benefited from her knowledge and ability. She commented that she was going to miss the challenge of the job and the satisfaction of helping her community.

Bill Yaeger, our seemingly permanent, temporary Population Protection Planner, has moved on to greener pastures. Bill, a long time member of the National Guard, has been nominated for promotion to brigadier general. Bill will continue to assist the Division with public information efforts during disasters and emergencies. Thanks, Bill.

Chuck McCombs, the District 2 Representative for 8 1/2 years, has resigned from the DES Division to open a sports complex in Layton, Utah. Chuck has been working to

close out the public assistance projects for FEMA 761 and FEMA 777 before he moves out of state. Many folks will remember the tireless assistance Chuck provided during the 1986 spring and fall floods. We will miss his good humor. Good luck in your new occupation!

Another familiar face has left the state DES office. Bill Davis, a RADEF technician, has resigned to go back to college. Bill will be working on his teaching certificate at Carroll College. He has mentioned elementary education and social work as possible ends to his labors. Congratulations and best wishes from all of us.

Speaking of familiar faces, NancyJo Ilminen has joined the Helena staff as the Exercise Training Officer. Many of you have met NancyJo in the Highway Patrol Communications Center in the Armory sub-basement. Her years of training experience will be put to the test. Welcome to the other half of the basement, NJ!

The friendly, efficient voice your are hearing on our main phone line belongs to Monique Lay. Monique is taking up where Shauna Cornell left off. She answers the phones, types plans and generally keeps us all in line. Thanks for the cheery good humor.

Fred Cowie is one of the newest member of the state DES staff. Fred will be working in the Population Protection Planning program. He is currently wading his way through plans, guides, legal authorities and other documents, preparing to assist local jurisdictions with emergency operations plans. Welcome aboard.

Lester Carter, formerly of Lakeside and the Somers Volunteer Fire Department, is the new RADEF Technician.

POSTERS! POSTERS! POSTERS!

For those of you who are tired of looking at the same old civil defense posters, have we got news for you! Two new posters are available.

One, bearing the caption "Millions of Americans have experienced disaster--Are you prepared?", shows scenes related to disasters and emergency preparedness activities. The other, "Are you ready for the next disaster?", shows part of an American flag draped across a dark blue background.

Both of the posters have a place for a local disaster and emergency services/civil defense representative to add their name and phone number. The posters are perfect for display during any disaster awareness activities.

We have received several shipments of these posters and can send several to those who may want them. To get these posters contact Mary Arnold, or write to P.O. Box 70274, Washington, D.C. 20024 and request them.

TRAINING CALENDAR

A new type of course advertisement (DES training catalog) is in the works. It will be produced as a calendar covering federal fiscal year October 1, 1990 through September 31, 1991. The calendar will outline courses offered, descriptions, dates and locations and will includes special events, tips, quips/quotes, graphics, and short topics.

All of your ideas and topics are welcome for review and possible inclusion in the new training calendar. If you have any topics or ideas, contact NancyJo.

-NancyJo Ilminen